

May 15, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

State court reform plan outlined in Michigan Supreme Court's 2012 Annual Report

[Press release](#)

The Detroit News: Appeals court cancels depositions over Detroit emergency manager appointment

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has stopped Detroit Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr and two state emergency loan board members from giving depositions in a lawsuit claiming open meetings violations in the state's selection of Orr."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Wayne County Commission rejects Prosecutor Kym Worthy's \$31M budget settlement

"... [T]he commission rejected the settlement offered by officials from the county and [Prosecutor Kym] Worthy's office that would boost Worthy's annual budget to \$31 million, saying a hunt for so much money with five months remaining in the budget year would hurt other departments. The rejection of the settlement sends the matter back to court, where a judge could now force the county to find the funds."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Worthy warns criminals may go free after budget deal is rejected

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Wayne County Commission votes down settlement that would have given Prosecutors Office more money

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Dearborn, Hamtramck offering amnesty programs for civil infraction tickets

"The cities of Dearborn and Hamtramck have announced amnesty programs for people with unpaid civil infraction tickets. The programs offer an opportunity for individuals to settle their old debts with the court while allowing the courts to clear up a backlog of files without substantial additional costs."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Dearborn offers amnesty for parking, traffic ticket fees

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: New amnesty program announced in Dearborn

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Brian Dickerson: Michigan Supreme Court guilty of partisanship

"The last thing you want when you have made your way to the top position on your state's highest court is for a bunch of your most distinguished predecessors to start suggesting — all at once, and very publicly — that you are making a hash of the job."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WJR 760 AM/Detroit: Frank Beckmann show: Former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Elizabeth Weaver (12:06 minute podcast)

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: DMBA Barristers hold mock trial

"The Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Barristers hosted a mock trial at White Elementary School in Detroit May 8.... The program volunteers included: Judge Prentis Edwards, Jr. of the 36th District Court; Antoinette Porter of DTE; Brian McGinty of Butzel Long; Tiffany Sadek of Clark Hill; and James Britton of Sachs Waldman."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Court offers bench warrant amnesty

"Wayne County Friend of the Court is offering amnesty on bench warrants for those in arrears on child support. From May 1 – 24, payers who appear and pay 1 percent or \$250, whichever is greater, toward their child support arrearage will receive amnesty."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Portage approves District Court agreement that pays \$70,000 a year for 10 years

"With no discussion, the Portage City Council has voted for a financial agreement with Kalamazoo County over the closing of the Shaver Road district court. The agreement calls for Kalamazoo County paying Portage \$70,000 a year for 10 years to cover Portage's costs by the court closing. The funding will come from fines and costs District Court assesses for Portage ordinance cases."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: District judge promoted to Midland Circuit Court

"Judge Stephen P. Carras of the 75th District Court has been appointed as judge of the 42nd Circuit Court (Midland County). Gov. Rick Snyder's appointment files a vacancy on the Midland bench created when of Judge Jonathan E. Lauderbach resigned to return to private practice."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

SBM Blog: Governor Appoints Stephen Carras To Midland Circuit Court

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Judge says 'enough' to hearing teen sex cases

"'Enough is enough,' Branch County Circuit Judge Bill O'Grady proclaimed from the bench. 'Young boys need to stay away from freshman girls.' O'Grady made the remarks when sentencing Bradley Regan, 18, for having sex with his 14-year-old girlfriend, according to The Daily Reporter."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Daily Reporter/Coldwater: Judge rails against teen sex

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Defendant of embattled Muskegon attorney pleads no contest

"A murder suspect, represented by embattled Muskegon County criminal-defense attorney Terry Joel Nolan, has pleaded no contest to second-degree murder for a November 2010 street shooting. Nolan, who is facing a cocaine charge, had been allowed by the Michigan Attorney Discipline Board to represent Maurice Darnell Clemons in the trial, which was to have started May 14."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Muskegon Chronicle: Terry Nolan's client Maurice Clemons pleads in murder case, heading off trial

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Women's Bar to host Annual Dinner May 23

"The Women's Bar Association, Oakland County region of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, will host its Annual Dinner on Thursday, May 23, beginning at 6 p.m. at Andiamo, 6676 Telegraph Rd. in Bloomfield Township.... Also during the meeting, Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Phyllis McMillen will be honored for her commitment to community, and judicial efficiency and integrity."

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Attorney Discipline Board Picks A New Executive Director

"The Attorney Discipline Board has selected deputy executive director Mark Armitage to succeed the agency's longtime executive director, John Van Bolt, when he retires at the end of September.... Prior to joining the Board's staff in 1994, he clerked for the Michigan Court of Appeals, was in private practice, was a volunteer hearing panelist and served on the State Bar's Standing Committee on Grievance."

[Full story](#)

Times Herald/Port Huron: Sara Ylen court date pushed to June; Preliminary exam involves six charges

"... [Sara Ylen's] charges came about six months after James Grissom, the man she said raped her in 2001, was released from prison with all charges dropped.... After learning of the unsubstantiated claims, the Michigan Supreme Court granted Grissom a new trial. St. Clair County Prosecutor Mike Wendling made a request for the case to be dismissed rather than retried, citing the length of time since the alleged incident and the new evidence that was discovered."

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Wayne County Judge defends releasing man accused of murder while out on bond

"Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Bruce Morrow defended his decision to release Demetrius Edwards on bond, even after he learned he would spend years in prison for armed robbery.... Hours after he was released, police say Edwards murdered husband and father Cedell Leverett outside Eastland Mall."

[Full story](#)